

CROSSWALK SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

June 20, 2013

MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Councillor Barry Dalrymple, Interim Chair
Ms. Jamy-Ellen Klenavic
Councillor Darren Fisher
Ms. Lucille Reid
Mr. Stephen Stone
Mr. Tom Boyd
Mr. Kyle Miller
Dr. Ashan Habib
Ms. Janet Barlow

OTHERS PRESENT:

Councillor Steve Craig
Councillor Lorelei Nichol

REGRETS:

Councillor Waye Mason
Mr. Ben Wedge

STAFF:

Sgt. David Reynolds, Integrated HRP/RCMP Traffic Supervisor
Ms. Jill McGillicuddy, Planner, Halifax Regional School Board
Mr. Taso Koutroulakis, A/Manager, Traffic and ROW
Mr. Quentin Hill, Legislative Assistant
Mr. Darcy Warren, Legislative Support

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1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Dalrymple, Interim Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 am in the Halifax Hall, Main Floor, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

Round table introductions were made. The Chair acknowledged the presence of Councillors Craig and Nicoll.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 23, 2013

MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Ms.Klenavic, that the minutes of May 23, 2013 be approved, as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions:

7.1 Terms of Reference

MOVED by Ms. Klenavic, seconded by Mr. Stone that the Order of Business be approved, as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - None

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – None

6. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

6.1 Discussion on Committee/Council decision making process – *Clerk's Office*

This item was deferred until next meeting.

6.2 Presentation – Traffic and ROW policies, procedures, standards – *Traffic and ROW*

Mr. Taso Koutroulakis, Acting Manager, HRM Traffic & ROW, gave a presentation to the Committee on Traffic and ROW policies, procedures and standards. Staff informed members that all crosswalks, policies, procedures and standards are governed by the *Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act (MVA)*. Staff gave the Committee a definition of "crosswalk" as defined by the MVA.

Staff informed the Committee of s.90(1) of the NSMVA, as it pertains to crosswalks and its' authority to establish, designate and maintain or cause to be maintained at highways, crosswalks at intersections, highways and at other places as may be deemed

necessary. Staff also explained s.125(1) of the MVA pertaining to pedestrian and vehicle rights of way.

Discussion took place with questions and answers, including the following:

- How do we determine high risk areas, and be proactive instead of reactive.
- What are the spacing guidelines? NSMVA states what guidelines to use when it comes to painting lines and also depending on the situation where the crosswalk is located.
- Crossing times.
- Legality of marked and unmarked crosswalks.
- Block access to roadways when a crosswalk is a few feet away.
- Promote walking and active transportation.

Staff closed the presentation by suggesting that it would be beneficial to have HRM Corporate Communications give a presentation on the recent HRM Pedestrian Safety campaign. Staff indicated that citizen education is best for crosswalk safety. The Chair thanked staff for the presentation.

The Committee requested that at the next meeting Mr. Koutroulakis explain how crosswalks are determined.

6.3 Presentation – Crosswalk Statistics – *Halifax Regional Police*

A copy of the presentation is available online and on file.

Staff Sgt. David Reynolds, Halifax Regional Police, gave a presentation on crosswalk statistics for 2013. Staff stated that proper statistics are not easy to obtain due to most crosswalk violations are reported to NSMVA.

Staff Sgt. Reynolds reviewed 2013 statistics collected to date, with regard to violations to s. 125 & 126 of the *Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act*. He also reviewed injury accidents by area.

Councillor Fisher left the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Staff Sgt. Reynolds indicated that there have been no fatalities associated with crosswalks so far in 2013, and that in 2012 there were three.

The Committee discussed the statistics with staff, noting the following comments and questions by Committee members:

- Enforcement of cars not yielding to pedestrians
- Why is ticketing by police a judgement call?
- Are there trends regarding the time of year accidents happen?
- Negative scare tactic ads

- Violators are receiving more tickets
- Processing data from different departments is the biggest problem in which to maintain accurate statistics

Staff indicated that solutions to crosswalk safety still remain with education and awareness. Dr. Habib indicated to the Committee that work is now being completed from NSMVA, HRP and RCMP in HRM. Dr. Habib agreed to make a presentation on the work being completed at an upcoming meeting. The Chair thanked staff for the presentation.

7. ADDED ITEMS

7.1 Terms of Reference

This item was deferred until next meeting.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE – July 25, 2013

8.1 Proposed 2013 Meeting Schedule

A copy of the 2013 meeting schedule is on file and has been posted online.

Committee Members received a copy of the proposed meeting schedule. It was agreed that the last Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at City Hall is best for members.

MOVED by Dr. Habib, seconded by Ms. Reid the 2013 Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee meeting schedule be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Darcy Warren
Legislative Support